

### In the Claims

The following Listing of Claims replaces all prior versions in the application:

#### LISTING OF CLAIMS

1. (Currently amended) A method for evaluating the bandwidth between a first point and a second point liable to exchange digital data packets in a telecommunications network including a plurality of sub-networks, characterized in that it includes the following steps:

for each transmission direction through at least one of said sub-networks:

- a. associating a same identifier with the quasi-simultaneously transmitted packets,
- b. time-stamping and recording received packets,
- c. identifying and sorting the packets received with the same identifier,
- d. selecting the largest possible integer number m of groups of packets with the same identifier,
- e. measuring the time intervals separating the instants when the packets of the selected groups are received by the second point,
- f. calculating the bandwidth according to the number of packets of the selected groups and to the total transmission time of these packets,

wherein the number m is larger than or equal to 1.

2. (Original) The method according to claim 1, characterized in that the bandwidth is calculated with the following expression:

$$\overline{BW} = \frac{1}{m} \sum_{i=1}^m \left[ \frac{1}{n_m} \sum_{i=1}^{n_m-1} \frac{l_{i,m}}{t_{(i+1),m} - t_{i,m}} \right]$$

wherein:

- $l_{i,m}$  represents the length of the packet of rank I of the  $m^{\text{th}}$  group of packets,
- $t_i$  represents the time mark of the packet of rank i of the  $m^{\text{th}}$  group of packets,
- $t_{i+1}$  represents the time mark of the packet of rank i+1 of  $m^{\text{th}}$  group of packets,
- n represents the number of packets of the  $m^{\text{th}}$  group of packets.

3. (Canceled)
4. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 1, characterized in that the marking of the data packets is achieved at the transmitting point upon a request from the receiving point.
5. (Currently amended) The method according to claim 1, characterized in that the bandwidth is evaluated in a real-time manner~~on-line~~.
6. (Currently amended) The method according to claim 1, characterized in that the bandwidth is evaluated in a delayed time manner~~off-line~~.
7. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 1, characterized in that the telecommunications network is of the IP type.
8. (Currently amended) A device for evaluating the bandwidth between a first point and a second point liable to exchange digital data packets in a telecommunications network including a module for making the transmitted packets and a module for analyzing the received packets, comprising:
  - a.g. means for associating a same identifier with quasi-simultaneously transmitted packets for each transmission direction through at least one of said sub-networks,
  - b.h. means for time-stamping and recording received packets,
  - c.i. means for identifying and sorting the packets received with the same identifier,
  - d.j. means for selecting the largest possible integer number m of groups of packets with the same identifier,
  - e.k. means for measuring the time intervals separating the instants when the packets of the selected groups are received by the second point,
  - f.l. means for calculating the bandwidth according to the number of packets of the selected groups and to the total transmission time of these packetswherein the number m is larger than or equal to 1.

9. (Canceled)